

## Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 BUENOS 07979 301740Z

67

ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-01 INR-05 L-01

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 SY-04 SCCT-01 AID-05 /062 W

----- 039915

R 301626Z OCT 74

FM AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8650

C O N F I D E N T I A L BUENOS AIRES 7979

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINS, PFOR, ASEC, AR

SUBJ: SENATOR PAZ DISCUSSES TERRORIST SITUATION

1. AMB HILL AND EMBOFF MADE A COURTESY CALL ON SENATOR PAZ AT HIS HOME JUST PRIOR TO LATTER'S DEPARTURE FOR US.

2. AFTER AN EXCHANGE OF PLEASANTRIES PAZ TOLD THE AMBASSADOR THAT HE HAD BEEN IN CONTACT WITH AMB ORFILA AND HAD ARRANGED THAT THE MEMBERS OF THE CONGRESSIONAL DELEGATION WOULD HOLD A JOINT PRESS CONFERENCE IN WASHINGTON. AMB ORFILA WISHED TO HAVE THE PRESS CONFERENCE IN WASHINGTON SO AS TO MAXIMIZE THE PUBLICITY THE TRIP WOULD RECEIVE IN ARGENTINA. AMB HILL NOTED THAT THE SUBJECT OF TERRORISM, WHICH WAS OF GREAT INTEREST IN THE US WAS SURE TO COME UP, AND SAID HE HOPED THE SENATOR WOULD MAKE THE POINT THAT WHILE POLITICAL ACTS OF TERROR DID OCCUR THE VAST MAJORITY OF ARGENTINES CARRIED OUT THEIR NORMAL ACTIVITIES FREE FROM THE THREAT OF VIOLENCE. PAZ AGREED THAT THIS WAS INDEED THE CASE AND SAID HE WOULD ENDEAVOR TO MAKE THIS POINT AT THE PRESS CONFERENCE.

3. PAZ THEN SAID HE WISHED TO INFORM THE AMBASSADOR IN GREAT CONFIDENCE OF A NEW DEVELOPMENT ON THE TERRORIST FRONT SO THAT HE WOULD NOT BE TAKEN BY SURPRISE. THE GOVERNMENT HAD LEARNED THAT THE ERP, IN ORDER TO FULFILL ITS PROMISE OF KILLING 16 MILITARY PEOPLE IN RETRIBUTION FOR CATAMARCA, HAD DECIDED  
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 BUENOS 07979 301740Z

TO INCLUDE THE WIVES AND CHILDREN OF MILITARY OFFICERS AMONG ITS

TARGETS. THE GOVERNMENT UNDERSTOOD THIS NEW EFFORT WAS SLATED TO BEGIN NOV 1, THOUGH IT HAD NO INFORMATION AS TO WHY THAT DATE WAS CHOSEN. IF, HOWEVER, THE ERP DID ACT IN THIS MANNER THE GOVERNMENT WAS PREPARED TO TAKE STRONG MEASURES BOTH TO REPRESS THE TERRORIST AND TO SHOW SOLIDARITY WITH THE ARMY.

4. ACCORDING TO PAZ THE GOVERNMENT WAS PREPARED TO INSTITUTE DECREES IN SELECTED AREAS DECLARING THEM "EMERGENCY AREAS" TO DEAL WITH THE THREAT. IF NECESSARY, THESE EMERGENCY AREAS COULD HAVE A STATE OF SIEGE APPLIED TO THEM. THE TWO AREAS MOST LIKELY TO BE PUT UNDER THESE LAWS WERE CORDOBA AND TUCUMAN. IN ADDITION, IF A SINGLE DEPENDENT OF A MILITARY OFFICER WAS KILLED, FEDERAL POLICE CHIEF VILLAR WOULD LET BE KNOWN THAT THIS WAS TANTAMOUNT TO A DECLARATION OF WAR AND THAT THE FAMILIES OF KNOWN ERP MEMBERS WOULD NO LONGER RECEIVE THE POLICE PROTECTION AFFORDED ARGENTINE CITIZENS.

5. AMB HILL, NOTING THE SERIOUSNESS OF THIS TURN OF EVENTS, ASKED PAZ HOW THE GOVERNMENT PLANNED TO IMPLEMENT ITS ACTIONS. PAZ SAID THAT THE STATE OF SIEGE WOULD ONLY BE APPLIED AS A LAST RESORT. FIRST, IF THE TERRORIST ACTED AGAINST DEPENDENTS, THE AREAS THEY OPERATED IN WOULD BE DECREED TO BE EMERGENCY ZONES (THIS THIS MEASURE WAS NOT SUFFICIENT TO SUPPRESS THE TERRORIST THEN THE GOVERNMENT WOULD DECLARE THE ZONES TO BE UNDER A STATE OF SIEGE.) CORDOBA AND TUCUMAN ARE PROVINCES WHERE TROUBLE WAS EXPECTED AND ARE THE AREAS EXPECTED TO REQUIRE THESE SEVERE MEASURES. UNDER NO CIRCUMSTANCES WOULD THE FEDERAL CAPITAL OR GREATER BUENOS AIRES BE INCLUDED IN A STATE OF SIEGE AREA, PAZ ADDED.

6. PAZ THEN TURNED TO THE SUBJECT OF THE SECURITY OF US PERSONNEL--ESPECIALLY THE AMBASSADOR--AND SAID THAT THE GERMAN AMB HAD BROUGHT WITH HIM TRAINED GERMAN PROFESSIONALS TO PROVIDE HIS SECURITY. IF AMB HILL WERE TO DO THE SAME IT WOULD BE WELL UNDERSTOOD HERE AND CAUSE NO PROBLEMS. THE AMB THANKED PAZ FOR THIS EXPRESSION BUT NOTED THAT THE USG HAD AND CONTINUED TO RECEIVE THE HIGHEST DEGREE OF COOPERATION FROM THE FEDERAL POLICE AND FOREIGN MINISTRY OFFICIALS. AT THIS TIME THE IMPRESSION OF US NATIONALS MIGHT GIVE THE IMPRESSION WE DID NOT FIND THE GOA SECURITY EFFORTS ADEQUATE. THIS WAS NOT THE CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 BUENOS 07979 301740Z

CASE AND AMB HILL WOULD TAKE NO ACTION WHICH MIGHT CREATE SUCH A FALSE IMPRESSION. PAZ THEN ASSURED THE AMB THAT HE WOULD CONTINUE TO RECEIVE THE FULLEST COOPERATION FROM THE GOA.

COMMENT: SENATOR PAZ IS A CALM, MEASURED INDIVIDUAL WELL CONNECTED IN BOTH POLITICAL AND MILITARY CIRCLES. THUS, HIS COMMENTS ARE CAUSE FOR CONCERN. HOWEVER, EMBASSY BELIEVES THAT HIS REMARKS SHOULD BE SEEN AS GOA CONTINGENCY PLAN WHICH HAS

RECEIVED GOA CONSIDERATION IN CASE TERRORISTS RESORT TO THESE  
DESPERATE TACTICS, RATHER THAN AS A BATTLE PLAN WHICH WILL  
UNFOLD IN NEXT FEW DAYS. WHILE SOME OF THE FANATIC ERP SPLINTER  
GROUPS MIGHT INDEED CONTEMPLATE SUCH BARBAROUS ACTS, THE ERP  
HIGH COMMAND WOULD SURELY SEE THEM AS TACTICS WHICH WOULD  
FURTHER ERODE THE RESIDUAL SYMPATHY THE GROUP POSSESS.  
IT WOULD BE LAMENTABLE, ON THE OTHER HAND, IF RESPONSIBLE POLITICAL  
FIGURES IN THE GOVERNMENT ARE INDEED CONSIDERING TAKING REPRISALS  
AGAINST THE FAMILIES OF ERP MEMBERS AND SUSPECTS. THIS COULD  
WELL SERIOUSLY DAMAGE GOA'S IMAGE IN BOTH DOMESTIC AND INTER-  
NATIONAL ARENAS.  
HILL

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** PARAMILITARY FORCES, DIPLOMATIC PERSONNEL, POLITICAL SITUATION  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 30 OCT 1974  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** boyleja  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1974BUENOS07979  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** D740310-0648  
**From:** BUENOS AIRES  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1974/newtext/t1974108/aaaaagep.tel  
**Line Count:** 127  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Office:** ACTION ARA  
**Original Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 3  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** n/a  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** boyleja  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 05 SEP 2002  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <05 SEP 2002 by boyleja>; APPROVED <10 MAR 2003 by boyleja>  
**Review Markings:**

Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
30 JUN 2005

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** SENATOR PAZ DISCUSSES TERRORIST SITUATION  
**TAGS:** PINS, PFOR, ASEC, AR  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005